

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 21 APR 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference 579860C	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU2003/000012	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 7 January 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year) 7 January 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ B41F 27/00, B44C 1/14, 1/24		
Applicant FAWCETT, Alan John et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 16 July 2003	Date of completion of the report 6 April 2004
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer A. ALI Telephone No. (02) 6283 2607

I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☐ the description, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the drawings, pages , as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-12	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-12	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-12	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

NOVELTY (N)

The following documents were cited in the International Search Report and relied upon in establishing this report:

D1: US 5904096 A (FAWCETT et al) 18 May 1999

D2: EP 0235677 A2 (R.R. DONNELLEY & SONS COMPANY) 9 September 1987

D3: Derwent Abstract Accession No. 94015 E/44, Class A32 G05 P78 (A94), JP 5716212 A (TOPPAN PRINTING KK) 27 September 1982

D4: GB 1533431A (MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY) 22 November 1978

D1 discloses all the features of claims 1-12. (see in particular column 4, lines 30-40). It discloses a filling material 11 such as epoxy resin. The filling material preferably comprises metals or metal oxides to increase heat conductivity of the filling material so that it is similar to that of the housing 2.

D2 discloses all the features of claims 1-5, 10-12. The base layer 25 of the blanket is adhesively secured to the surface of the steel plate at the interface. A structural epoxy adhesive is satisfactory.

D3 discloses all the features of claims 1-5, 10-12. The surface of the substrate board is coated with an adhesive and laminated with resin coated sheet so that the adhesive layer is contacted directly with the resin layer.

D4 discloses the features of claims 1-12. The printing plate mount 10 comprises resilient compressible elastomeric layer 11 which is adherently bonded to a reinforcing layer 12. The reinforcing layer can be a film or sheet of nylon, or polyester or woven fabric or metal.

INVENTIVE STEP (IS)

Claims 1-12 lack an inventive step as the features are either totally disclosed in one or more of the above citations or the features that are not explicitly disclosed are generic in the art (for example plate thicknesses).

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY (IA)

The subject matter of the claims finds application in the printing industry.

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 10 lacks clarity because it is not clear whether "the plate" refers back to a die plate or a perforated plate.